

# Grant and Per Diem Operational Webinar

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Tuesday, April 13, 2021 at 2pm Eastern/11am Pacific



Recording Link: <https://veteransaffairs.webex.com/veteransaffairs/ldr.php?RCID=395674ca8421965051300c6a4df144d9>

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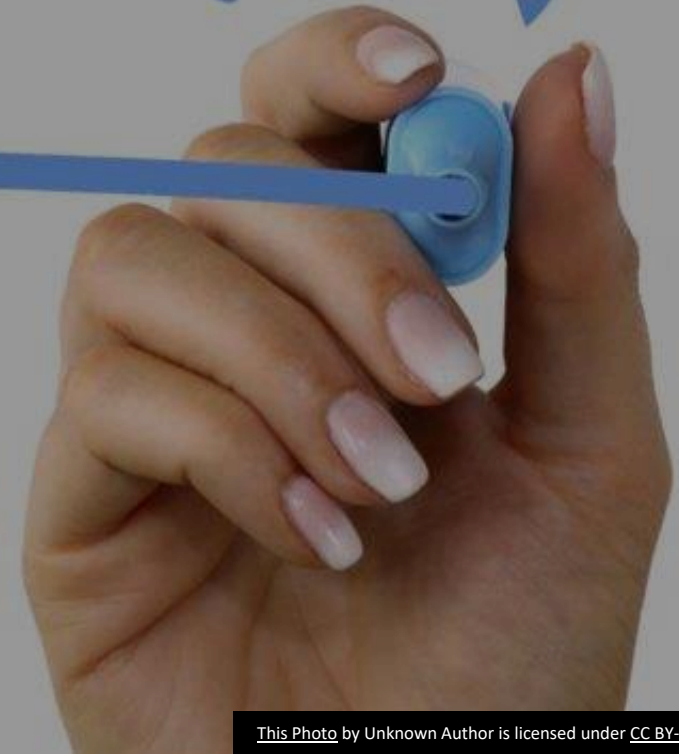
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# AGENDA

- Announcements
  - PL 116-315 Updates
    - Real Property Disposition Waiver
    - Per Diem Payments for Minor Dependents
  - Per Diem Only Option Year 1
  - Sexual Assault Awareness Month
- Office of Business Oversight
- Review of Notices of Funding Opportunities (NOFOs)
- GPD /SSVF Co-enrollment



# Announcements –PL 116- 315 Updates Real Property Disposition

PL 116-315 has a provision that waives real property disposition requirements for grants awarded before or during the public health emergency “is no longer providing services in accordance with the terms of the grant” (2CFR 200.311 (c))

Prior capital grants were terminated by VA at the end of FY 2017;

- Notice in Federal Register December 23, 2016
- Applying this provision as having met the terms of the grant for prior grants

GPD sending email to all current grantees with this notification for the record; that VA noting this waiver

- Does not apply to the VA Recovery Provisions 38 CFR 61.67 (a-b)
- Is effective the date of the law, January 5, 2021

# Announcements- PL 116-315 Update Per Diem Payments for Minor Dependents



- Section 4202 (a) (iii) authorizes per diem payment of 50% of per diem for each minor dependent in care of homeless Veterans while receiving services in GPD
- GPD Office working out the administrative and program requirements associated with the implementation of the law
  - Projected initial implementation this summer (as early as June)
  - GPD Office will be providing guidance once implementation plan in place

# Announcement- Per Diem Only (PDO) Option Year 1

- The PDO awards that began on October 1, 2020 were 1- year awards
  - Includes two (2) one-year options for VA
- There is no NOFO for these PDO awards
- GPD Office will be sending out instructions before the end of the 3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter for grant recipients to express their interest in Option Year 1 funding



## April: Sexual Assault Awareness Month

“We believe you — **and we believe in you.**”

The ***Beyond MST*** app is now available. ***Beyond MST*** is a free, secure and private self-help mobile app created specifically to support the health and well-being of survivors of military sexual trauma (MST). It was developed by the Department of Veterans Affairs with input from MST survivors and other key stakeholders. The app has over 30 specialized tools and other features to help MST survivors cope with challenges, manage symptoms, improve their quality of life and find hope. They can also take brief assessments in the app to understand their well-being, symptoms and beliefs about the world and track their progress towards personal goals. Users do not need to create an account or be in treatment to use the app. Any personal information entered in the app is not shared with anyone, including the VA.

***Beyond MST*** is not intended to replace professional care, but it can help survivors in and out of care to find hope, connect to resources, and realize they're not alone. Survivors can also use it in a variety of ways to support MST-related treatment.

You can learn more or download the app at <https://www.ptsd.va.gov/appvid/mobile/beyondMST.asp>, or search for “Beyond MST” in the Play Store or App Store.





# Office of Business Oversight

- **Upcoming Fiscal Reviews:**
  - **Low Income Housing Institute** – April 19-23, 2021
  - **Aurora Comprehensive Community Mental Health Center** – May 11-13, 2021
  - **Mechling Shakley** – May 18-20, 2021
  - **The Baltimore Station** – June 8-10, 2021
  - **Transition Projects, Inc.** – June 8-10, 2021
  - **Salvation Army (Roseville, MN)** – July 13-15, 2021
  - **New Directions** – July 13-15, 2021
- **SF-425 Update**
  - FY 2019 - 50 SF-425's have not been submitted as of 4/12/2021
  - FY 2020 - 124 SF-425's have not been submitted as of 4/12/2021
  - Grantees should be aware that late SF-425 reports may impact the program office's decision to continue the grant.
  - OBO emailed grantees who have not submitted their SF-425 and are 90 days past due



# Office of Business Oversight (continued)

- **SF-425's guidance**

- Office of Management and Budget (OMB) SF-425 Federal Financial Report Instructions, Page 3, states, "Annual reports shall be submitted no later than 90 days after the end of each reporting period."
- [2 CFR 200.344](#), **states**, (g) *When a recipient or subrecipient completes all closeout requirements, the Federal awarding agency or pass-through entity must promptly complete all closeout actions for Federal awards. The Federal awarding agency must make every effort to complete closeout actions no later than one year after the end of the period of performance unless otherwise directed by authorizing statutes. Closeout actions include Federal awarding agency actions in the grants management and payment systems. (i) If the non-Federal entity does not submit all reports in accordance with this section within one year of the period of performance end date, the Federal awarding agency must report the non-Federal entity's material failure to comply with the terms and conditions of the award with the OMB-designated integrity and performance system (currently FAPIIS). Federal awarding agencies may also pursue other enforcement actions per §200.339.*

# Capital Grant NOFO

- [Capital Grant NOFO](#)
- \$50M available to decrease risk in congregate living spaces
- Evaluation of grant proposals will include the degree to which risk is reduced
- Maximum request is \$50,000/transformed bed, not exceed \$2.5M
  - Costs and scope of work must be reasonable and allowable
  - OMB has waived associated Real Property Disposition requirements for these awards; however, projects still subject to [38 CFR 61.67 Recovery Provisions](#)



# Capital Grant NOFO

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- Funding **MUST** be used to create individual bedrooms and bathrooms (NOFO Housing Specifications)
- Strongly suggest applicants intending to apply begin developing proposals in [SmartSimple](#) ASAP
- Applications due **May 25, 2021 at 4pm EST**
- NOFO, NOFO Overview & Recording Webinar, NOFO FAQs, and Budget Template Sample can be found on the [GPD Website](#)



# Special Need NOFO

## Special Need NOFO

- \$15M available for 3-year grants to serve one of five special need populations
  - Chronically mentally ill, frail elderly, individuals who care for minor dependents, terminally ill or women
  - Expect to award approx. 135 beds across 10-15 grants
  - New organizations and current grantees may apply
- Funding restrictions:
  - Minimum 5 beds, maximum 10 beds
  - Must also have private room with private bath
  - Maximum request is \$110,000/special need bed, not exceed \$1.1M



## Special Need NOFO

- Strongly suggest applicants intending to apply begin developing proposals in [SmartSimple](#) ASAP
- Applications due **May 5, 2021 at 4pm EST**
- NOFO, NOFO Overview and Webinar Recording, NOFO FAQs, and Staffing Plan Template can be found on the [GPD Website](#)

# Veterans Experiencing Homelessness

## Grant and Per Diem Program: Provider Website

### Contact GPD Program Staff

GPD Program Questions: [GPDGrants@va.gov](mailto:GPDGrants@va.gov)

Fiscal Questions (per diem rates): [GPDFiscal@va.gov](mailto:GPDFiscal@va.gov)

SF 425 Questions: [GPD425@va.gov](mailto:GPD425@va.gov)

*(Please include your project FAIN on all correspondence)*

### Coronavirus (COVID-19)

 [SSVF & GPD Co-Enrollment Considerations and Guidance](#) 

[Webinar: COVID-19 Testing Protocol for Veterans in VHA Homeless Programs](#) 

[CPR Guidance](#) 

[Wellness & Symptom Checks - COVID Positive & Presumptive Positive Veterans In Hotels and Motels](#) 

[Webinar](#)

[GPD CARES Act Implementation Guidance](#) 

**SSVF AND GPD  
Transitional  
Housing  
CO-ENROLLMENT  
CONSIDERATIONS  
DURING COVID-  
19:  
[https://www.va.gov/HOMELESS/GPD\\_ProviderWebsite.asp](https://www.va.gov/HOMELESS/GPD_ProviderWebsite.asp)**

# **SSVF AND GPD Transitional Housing CO-ENROLLMENT CONSIDERATIONS DURING COVID-19**

## Introduction and Context

- The intention of this document is to provide guidance for SSVF and GPD co-enrollments and transfers during the COVID 19 pandemic.
- We understand that there are special circumstances when Veterans may be co-enrolled with both programs, but the main thing to keep in mind is that referral and placement decisions should always be made with Veteran choice as a priority, keeping in mind permanent housing goals, available resources, and safety.
- The nature of the crisis response led to many Veterans being placed into various emergency housing settings that may no longer fit their current housing and service goals.
- Both SSVF and GPD offer flexibilities that allow for the safe and secure placement for homeless Veterans while they seek permanent housing.

## SSVF AND GPD Transitional Housing CO-ENROLLMENT CONSIDERATIONS DURING COVID-19

### Guiding Principles

- Wherever feasible and safe, Veterans should be effectively screened for the most appropriate placement option at time of initial engagement to reduce the need for program transfers in the future. The screening should account for immediate health and safety concerns and, concurrently, the Veteran's longer-term housing and service desires
- There are four primary points to consider as Veterans are screened for placement:
  - **Veteran safety is priority.**
  - **The Veteran should be at the center of decision making.**
  - **Co-enrollments should involve complementary services rather than duplication of services**
  - **SSVF should play a limited role in emergency housing placements** that are expected to last more than 45 days



# SSVF AND GPD Transitional Housing CO-ENROLLMENT CONSIDERATIONS DURING COVID-19

## **Emergency Housing Assistance (SSVF) vs. Hotel/Motel Assistance in GPD**

- Veterans who present as literally homeless and in need of shelter should be considered for all appropriate options, which may or may not mean a referral to SSVF or GPD.
- Both SSVF and GPD can offer hotels as part of crisis response based on resource availability.
- GPD grantees have the ability to apply for a per diem rate increase to facilitate placement of Veterans safely into hotel/motel, if needed. GPD would provide all necessary services in this instance. (See [Options for Social Isolation document](#) for reference) Veterans entering GPD as part of crisis response must still meet all GPD eligibility criteria and have permanent housing as a goal.
- SSVF Emergency housing should be explored only after all other emergency housing options have been explored. SSVF's primary mission is to deliver Rapid Rehousing services to Veterans. If other safe, appropriate shelter options exist for a Veteran then they should be linked to those options before a placement in a hotel or motel paid for by SSVF.
- Veterans who have a desire to work on clinical needs in a transitional setting should be considered for appropriate GPD program models and should not be referred to SSVF for EHA.
- Veterans should not be referred to SSVF for emergency housing assistance with a planned transition into GPD unless there are no other immediate emergency housing options available or accessible that day. Veterans should be assessed at initial contact for most appropriate placement option.

## **SSVF AND GPD Transitional Housing CO-ENROLLMENT CONSIDERATIONS DURING COVID-19:**

### **Co-Enrollments or Overlap between GPD and SSVF During Housing Planning**

- Veterans may choose a traditional GPD program but decide to move toward housing more quickly than initially anticipated. In these cases, the Veteran may enroll in SSVF or HUD-VASH as they exit GPD for housing support, at which time SSVF would establish a service relationship with the Veteran and determine whether ongoing SSVF support is needed. GPD would provide non-duplicating services while the Veteran transitions to permanent housing.
- Veterans may choose GPD Bridge Housing if they have accepted or will soon enroll in a permanent housing option. In these cases, they may simultaneously enroll in both SSVF or HUD-VASH and GPD. In this instance, there are assigned roles for each program, void of duplication of services.

# Next Month

- Next webinar May 11, 2021 @ 2pm eastern
- GPD Provider website  
[https://www.va.gov/HOMELESS/GPD\\_ProviderWebsite.asp](https://www.va.gov/HOMELESS/GPD_ProviderWebsite.asp)